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**EXPLANATION OF FIGURES**

1. Male from Naples. Width of disc 290 mm.
2. Teeth of male from Naples.
3. Adult male from Vinaros. Width of disc 336 mm. (after Rey).

**DIAGNOSIS** — Maturity is reached at a total length approximately of 45 cm. According to Rey the species may grow to a length of 70 cm., though usually smaller than *R. clavata*. *Disc*: Length ca. 55 per cent. and width 66 to 68 per cent. in total length of fish; anterior margin undulated; outer angle obtusely rounded. *Snout* projects as a pointed process, rounded at tip; its length 5 times in width of disc and 2.75 to 3 times the interorbital width which is slightly less than or equal to the combined length of eye and spiracle. *Teeth* close set, obtuse and rounded in females, pointed in males; 36 to 44 rows in upper jaw—most commonly 40 rows. *Upper surface* entirely spinulose; spinulae more densely packed on middle of disc, interorbital, and scapular regions. Adult males with a single or double row of alar spines and a patch of malar spines. Males usually less rough in the middle of the wings, the spinulae being smaller than in females of corresponding size. Supraorbital series of spines more or less complete though less distinct in adult specimens. A pair of scapular spines in young. A median series of numerous small closely packed spines extends from the head to the dorsal fins, partly interrupted on the body. Tail with one or more marginal series of smaller spines. Colour uniform reddish-brown with numerous small dark spots and several cream spots, each of the latter margined with a ring of dark dots. *Lower surface* smooth or with scattered spinules. A narrow border of spinulae extends from tip of snout more than half way to the outer angle. Colour white. *Egg capsule* 45×30 mm. according to Lo Bianco for *R. punctata* at Naples.

**DISTRIBUTION** — Mediterranean: French coasts (Moreau).

#### SYNONYMY

*R. punctata* Risso 1826, *R. schultzi* Muller y Heale 1841, *R. punctata* forma *Schultzi* and forma *aspera* Pietschmann 1906, *R. stellata* Garman 1913, *R. punctata* Gunther 1870.

#### LITERATURE

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